

here is a diminutive, "a little lamb." This is Jesus—the Lion, the little Lamb. All power, all innocence, all courage, all gentleness; all determination, all patience; all victory, all suffering; all strength, all sacrifice; all might, all sympathy. Innocence, gentleness, patience, suffering, sacrifice, sympathy—these are the elements of more than kingly power, and more than heroic courage.

#### A Day of Small Things

Christian Advocate.

Is the good within thee small? Despise it not. God will not break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax. The flickering jet of light within thee may be the beginning of everlasting life and glory. Is the voice within calling to a better life a still, small voice? Do not despise it. It is the voice of God. Is the inclination within thy heart toward God and holiness a feeble inclination, only a faint desire? Despise it not. It is the work of God.

Dr. Chalmers once invited all those who had no desire to become Christians during a certain revival of religion to come to his house for conversation. Several young men came, indicating by this act that they had no intention and no desire to be converted. But Dr. Chalmers knew that their coming indicated that they were not so utterly destitute of religious impressions and interest as they supposed. After a short conversation and an earnest prayer he dismissed them with words like these: "A slender thread of gold is now let down from heaven before every one of you. It is so small that you cannot see it, and so slender that you may brush it away with your hand if you will. But do not despise it, I beseech you. If you lay hold upon it and cling to it, it will grow stronger and stronger until it shall draw your souls to heaven."

Is the amount of good which you can do small? Have you but little strength? Do not despise it. Out of that feebleness great results may flow. A Christian gentleman once invited a young man whom he met on the street to go to prayer meeting. He went and became interested, and went again. He was soon converted, and then a desire to do good was born in him. He went to college, graduated, and passed thru a theological seminary. He became a minister, and has now been preaching the Gospel for more than twenty years. The results of that simple invitation can never be calculated or tabulated. They are lasting as eternity. When Martin Luther began to proclaim his doctrines he had no thought of making a stir in the world. When John Wesley began to preach the doctrines of the spiritual life he had no expectation of becoming a power in the world. He felt that God had laid a truth on his heart, and it was his duty to tell it. In doing this little thing he was setting in motion a tremendous force, which has never ceased to operate. It is God that giveth the increase. Plant the seed, tho it be small as a grain of mustard seed.

The more one exercises the gift of God which is in him, the more it will increase. It may be small at first, but it will be mighty at last. The grain of mustard seed will become a tree. Neglect not the gift which is in thee. God is able to do wonderful things with feeble instruments. From the smallest beginnings the greatest issues sometimes proceed.

"A little spring had lost its way  
Amid the grass and fern;  
A passing stranger scooped a well,  
Where weary men might turn;  
He walled it in, and hung with care  
A ladle at its brink.  
He thought not of the deed he did,  
But judged that toil might drink.  
He passed again, and lo, the well,  
By summer never dried,  
Had cooled ten thousand parched tongues,  
And saved a life beside."

#### Every-day Religion

M. S. Kaufman.

Madame de Stael says: "A religious life is a struggle, and not a hymn." How soon does this practical fact become known to every earnest soul! Yet in the every day combat are there not occasional strains of sweetest music? It is the music of victory. It is the music of life's best elements gliding up to their rightful supremacy. Hence there is a sense in which the very struggles may become a worshipful hymn. But doubtless Madame de Stael's idea is that religion is not the stop of an organ to be pulled out for Sunday and then pushed in for the rest of the week. It is, rather, the life, the essential life. It is Christ's vitality in the soul. Hence of necessity it is for every day. Indeed, the "every day" label is the stamp of its genuineness. We may rightly be distrustful of that occasional religion which is put on and taken off as a movable garment. Evidently without meaning all that might be inferred, the little girl expressed much at the close of her evening prayer. After the usual "Now I lay me down to sleep," she continued: "Good-by, God. Good-by, Jesus. I'm going to Boston to morrow." The every-day religion, which is our general theme for this vacation month, is needed no less in summer than at any other season. It is the kind which will make us as careful of our conduct by seaside and on mountain slope as at home. It is the kind which will serve us as well in New York or London as in a New England village.

#### The Transfiguring Power of Prayer

New York Observer.

The path of prayer is the way to the Transfiguration Mount. He who would see God must seek God. It was as the Master prayed that the fashion of His countenance was changed and His raiment began to glisten like the spotless snows of Hermon. Prayer when it is of the right sort, when it is humble and earnest, always transfigures—it transfigures character, disposition, manner, and life. "The way to get up is to get down." To humble oneself before the Lord in prayer is the sure means to a vision of the Lord high and lifted up upon His throne.

## The Mission Field

### The Extent of Missionary Work

In a single year the Protestant churches of the world have expended about \$19,000,000 under the superintendence of 1,500 missionaries on the field, aside from the staff of secretaries and others at home. The results secured by this money appear to be out of all proportion to the efforts put forth. It is no slight thing to gather million and a half of communicants out of the communities of India, Africa, Japan, China and other lands; to organize and conduct several thousand schools of every grade; to establish hospitals and dispensaries in lands where medicine has been identified with the crudest superstitions.—*Harper's Weekly*

### The Authority For Missions

"The authority for foreign missions is Christ. What is the purpose of foreign missions? Still I answer: Christ. For Christ is Christianity, and Christianity is Christ. We say that the purpose of foreign missions is to proclaim the truth, but Christ says: 'I am the Truth.' We say the purpose of foreign missions is to diffuse the spirit of love, but Paul says: 'The Lord is the Spirit.' We say that the purpose of foreign missions is to give new life to a dead humanity, but Christ says: 'I am the Life.' Truth and Love and Life are personal. Christianity is not merely the spirit of Christ—it is Christ Himself. The Christian Church is not only called 'the body of Christ,' the body of which Christ is the soul, but it is said that 'the body is Christ,' and that the Church is 'the fullness of Him that filleth all in all.' The Church is the expanded Christ, and the purpose of foreign missions is the purpose of the universe, to make all men the temples for His personal indwelling, that He may be the first born among many brethren, and may fill the world with Himself.—*Augustus H. Strong.*

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### From the National Capital

"Let the children of Zion be joyful in their king," Ps. 149: 2. "Make known His deeds among the people," Ps. 105: 1. We continue to praise His name and rejoice because "Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary," Ps. 96: 6. "O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt his name together." Ps. 34: 3. We feel that we can not praise him enough for the continued manifestations of his presence with us. In looking over our record I find that we have received thirty-three members within a little more than seven months, which makes an average of more than one each week, and more than three fourths of this number have been received by baptism. On last Thursday night after prayer meeting another lady received by baptism; on last Sunday morning another applicant came forward for baptism. And last night (Tuesday night—song service) another applicant from German Baptists—Sister Katharine Ausherman of Frederick City, Maryland. We give her a hearty welcome and believe that she will prove a great blessing to us; wish she could remove to this city, but perhaps she is to be used of